MSA.13.1.14

The Waverly Hotel, Rochester;
Wednesday March 12. 1850

My kind and thoughtful friend,

Not till this morning was I aware of the treasures which lay concealed under the rude exterior of the parcel you sent me while I was at Syracuse. This morning I determined to explore the bundle, when lo! Alton Locke and a canister bearing the true impress of the Celestial world met my astonished and enraptured view. I have already held sweet and refreshing communion with my Angelic visitant and shall not suffer a section of the day to pass without an interview, as long as the dear dispenser remains Alton Locke will be grateful at all times & will soothe me in those brief intervals of repose which occur between my public appearances. Are you thanked? If not receive my assurance that three times a day I will think of you and bless you as I quaff the precious cup—

"which cheers but not inebriates" (Milton)

Oh! what a magnificent triumph we have gained here. On Monday, about 600 persons were assembled in Corinthian Hall to hear me. The Cars did not arrive till 4 the lecture hour was 3.— I was too unwell to speak and the lecture was therefore postponed till the following day (yesterday) About 1000 were present ~~to~~ to listen to me a very great audience for the day time.

when I rose, the aspect of the Meeting was cold, solemn, and uninspiring; but as I proceeded, suspicion and prejudice gave way, the frostwork melted, and it became as animated, Enthusiastic and touching a scene as you Ever witnessed.

At the close I was surrounded by a crowd Eager to shake hands with me and not a few of them frankly acknowledged that they had been prejudiced by the Reports and Articles in their papers. Alas for the Advertiser! This paper had been assailing me with a degree of Malice & Scurrility almost unexampled, and continued down to yesterday. To make its humiliation complete, it had prophesied as well as Vituperated; when lo! My audience was the largest Ever known at the hour - my Reception Cordial in the extreme - My Vindication triumphant - and its predictions, like its charges, were proved to be lies.

In the Evening I went to the house of the Posts (warm abolitionists of the true Stripe). There about 50 persons spent several hours with me and I did my best to gratify their desire to hear me talk.

I thank God for this result, for the friends here were very apprehensive, and a disturbance would have discouraged them greatly. I was yesterday unanimously invited to give another lecture, at my convenience, & promised to do so. I am resting to day. The Convention begins tomorrow.

I shall, probably, remain here all next week, for though I am working hard, I am not well, & feel that it is quite necessary I should relax a little.

My course from this will ~~to~~ be to go from this City to Lockport, near the Falls, & from thence over to Hamilton & Toronto on the British Side; then return and visit Seneca Falls and Waterloo and perhaps one or two other places, and revisit Auburn & Syracuse, & then return to Massachusetts, Via Springfield. At a later period, if I remain in this Country, I shall go to Montreal, by way of Vermont; and also to Quebec, and then ascend the St. Lawrence, & look upon some of the Scenery of that glorious part of this Continent.

I write amidst interruptions & therefore badly. I will conclude and send this as it is. I shall not write again before Saturday.

A thousand things strike me as topics for my letters but alas! I have no time even if I had strength for writing as I should like. Accept my barren Scrawls as a proof of my affectionate recollections and believe me,

Every where, and always,

Yours and Lucia's

Sincere friend

Geo Thompson

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